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customers' needs 'in focus'

Doggone patriotism



photos by 1st Lt. Ben Alumbaugh

Ice the pug shows off a little American and Marine patriotism Saturday during the first Yokota Pet Show. (Inset) Marine Sgt. Phong Nguyen, U.S. Forces-Japan, and the pug won first place in the "most patriotic" category. The event featured other categories such as most unique pet, most talented and a pet and owner look alike competition.

Exercise to test quality

Programs, paperwork under microscope of airlift wing's Inspector General's office

By 1st Lt. Warren Comer
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 374th Airlift Wing Inspector General office will conduct a Unit Compliance Exercise from May 24 through 26 to see if units are maintaining the level of quality work expected of them by Pacific Air Forces.

Unlike an Operational Readiness Inspection where units are tested on their ability to deploy forces and respond to contingencies, a UCE (a Unit Compliance Inspection when conducted by PACAF) assesses fundamental compliance and unit mission performance activities that are required by law and governing directives, to include U.S. federal and host-nation laws, regulatory policies, Department of Defense, Air Force, and PACAF directives and instructions and execution of COMPACAF policies.

"The IG assesses unit compli-

ance in these areas through the use of published checklists," said Lt. Col. Richard Dieringer, deputy inspector general.

There are a number of primary inspector tools that are used. They are the same tools when used in a UCE as with a UCI. This makes the process seamless and gives Airmen and their units a proper gauge from which to set their goals when an actual UCI is conducted.

According to Colonel Dieringer, these tools include Common Core Compliance Areas, PACAF Mission Performance Checklists listed in PACAF Directories and Air Force and PACAF Special Interest Items. Also included in a UCE are Full Spectrum Threat Response and Security Forces Exercises, which will not be tested during this exercise.

"With the Air Force's current expeditionary construct and the constant turnover of personnel in

an overseas environment, these programs and requirements can fall 'off the scope' and lack the priority needed to sustain compliance," said the colonel. "(This) UCE will provide unit and wing leadership with a snapshot of where we stand in regards to these key directives, which is especially important when you consider that UCIs only come along every three years."

There are many different priorities each unit in the wing deals with on a regular basis and focusing on inspection materials can be challenging, said the colonel.

"UCEs refocus our attention and steer us back into compliance so that when a UCI does come around, we are prepared and ready for the inspection," said Colonel Dieringer.

"As with any exercise, a UCE should help limit or eliminate the typical last minute 'spin-up' encountered just prior to an inspection," he explained.

Air Force special agent awarded Bronze Star

Individual lauded for contributions during Operation Iraqi Freedom

By Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas
Editor

One of Yokota's own earned the Bronze Star for his actions during a recent deployment.

Special Agent Charles Burgess, Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 621, was awarded the medal for potentially saving the lives of numerous servicemembers, said detachment officials.

Agent Burgess led a coalition counterintelligence operations cell from September 2003 to February 2004.

He was exposed to three live Improvised Explosive Devices during the deployment. As the cell leader, Agent Burgess took quick action to contact military Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Teams and Army officials. The explosives were removed and potentially saved the lives of the Soldiers who regularly patrol the roads that the devices were located on, said officials.

Agent Burgess also led a combat raid on a terrorist cell leader's residence. After successfully storming the residence with fellow team members, the agent found information that lead to the capture and confessions of the terrorist cell leader.

"He put himself at great risk doing these kind of operations," said Col. Merton Miller, 6th Field Investigations Region commander. "This really shows the kind of people we have and the sacrifices that they are willing to make for their country."

The colonel said he commended Agent Burgess for his actions, dedication and representation of AFOSI.

In addition to the medal, Agent Burgess was recognized by his unit and the region for excellence throughout 2004.

"I did what any one of us what have done out there," said Agent Burgess as he accepted the Bronze Star from Colonel Miller. "I had great leadership to support me."

AFOSI detachments and agents provide counterintelligence support for force protection conditions to keep senior leadership up-to-date on current threats, explained Special Agent Chris Ouellette, AFOSI Detachment 621 commander here.

During deployments, agents focus on collecting data from local law enforcement agencies and contacts to protect bases and servicemembers from attack. Agents are often required to travel to high-threat areas outside bases to collect information, said Agent Ouellette.

Base offices also conduct investigations for high-profile cases such as rape, extortion, larceny and drug-related crimes.



photo by Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas

Special Agent Charles Burgess, Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 621, accepts the Bronze Star alongside his family Friday. Col. Merton Miller, 6th Field Investigations Region commander presented the medal.

Welcome to the show!

More than 60 of Yokota's youth participated in the Missoula Children's Theater production of "The Frog Prince" Saturday. Students auditioned and practiced the musical only four days prior to putting on two performances at the Yokota Middle School auditorium. The theater visits Yokota East and West Elementary Schools alternately every year. Two theater representatives arrive with ready-made sets, costumes and scripts to put on the production. This year Jennifer Kaufmann and Trish Kimbell directed the children throughout the production. Ms. Kaufmann said it was an honor and pleasure to work with the Yokota youth. "The kids were really talented and the community just welcomed us with open arms," she said. "Parents brought in food and were very supportive." The Missoula Children's Theater began in 1970 in Missoula, N.D. The theater trains representatives such as Ms. Kaufmann and Ms. Kimbell on a production then sends them to a school community to put on that production. The theater will visit Yokota East Elementary School in 2006.



photo by Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas

Arts and Crafts Center gets new look, programs

By Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas
Editor

The Yokota Arts and Crafts Center is on a mission to serve you, the customer.

The center has several new programs



photo by Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas

A customer searches the shelves of the Yokota Arts and Crafts Center Tuesday.

and plans for an expanded store and woodshop facility, said Myrna Puzon, program manager for the center.

Upcoming changes focus on offering a variety of learning opportunities, unique cultural experiences and a family-oriented atmosphere, she explained.

Professional and award-winning Japanese experts teach classes such as basket-weaving, calligraphy and quilting. The center also offers classes in popular hobbies including scrapbooking, rubber-stamping and photography.

A black and white photography studio was opened this month at the center along with a month-long class on the photography style.

The center's wood shop was recently

renovated to include new benches and equipment. A children's wood shop and women's classes in the art are also being planned, said Ms. Puzon.

Field trips to Japanese arts and crafts areas and events are another addition to the center's expanding menu of services. Recent trips have been made to an indigo dyeing and paper-making workshop and an arts and crafts Japanese village called Takumi no Sato, Gunma Prefecture.

The center's store will expand both its size and product offerings, and a gallery area will also be added, said Ms. Puzon.

Arts and crafts classes have been created for children including a multimedia class during the summer. Children can also have birthday parties held at the center and

paint ceramic magnets with the aid of a center professional.

Ms. Puzon, a wife and mother who has known the military culture her entire life, said the changes reflect the love both she and center director Rob Steiner have for arts and crafts, and the military community.

"This is not just a job," she explained. "It is a way to share hope and joy with the wives and husbands of deployed servicemembers through creating art they may be had no idea they were capable of creating."

For more information about the numerous services and classes the center offers, visit the center, located directly behind the Yujo Recreation Center, or call 225-9044.

Rumsfeld announces BRAC recommendations:

WASHINGTON – The secretary of defense released the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure recommendations during a press conference May 13.

The list included: Air Force Research Laboratory Mesa, Ariz.; Brooks City-Base, Texas; Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.; Ellsworth AFB, S.D.; General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, Wis.; Kulis Air Guard Station, Alaska; Mansfield-Lahm AGS, Ohio; Niagara ARS, N.Y.; Onizuka Air Force Station, Calif.; Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass.; Pittsburgh ARS, Pa.; W.K. Kellogg AGS, Mich.

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Airmen allowed to show service colors while traveling: WASHINGTON – A new Air Force policy gives Airmen the choice to show their colors when traveling.

Airmen traveling to and from the U.S. Central Command Air Forces' area of responsibility have been, until recently, required to wear civilian clothing on flights in and out of the area.

Airmen now have the option to wear their desert combat uniform on those flights.

Air Force meeting nurse recruiting and retaining challenges:

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The nurse shortage is

a growing national and international problem, but Air Force officials are taking several measures to sustain its 3,608 person active-duty nurse corps, the Air Force's assistant surgeon general for nursing services told a Senate panel.

"The nurse shortage continues to pose an enormous challenge, and we need to maintain robust recruiting to sustain our nurse corps," Maj. Gen. Barbara Brannon told the Senate Appropriations Committee's subcommittee on defense.

AD

Housing Office checks up on yards

Community reminded keep base appearance standards

By Airman 1st Class
Katie Thomas
Editor

It is commonly said that beauty is on the inside, but when it comes to military family housing it is also must be on the outside.

The 374th Civil Engineer Squadron's housing flight is taking stock of Yokota's appearance with yard inspections, said flight officials.

The inspections will be conducted each Tuesday throughout the summer and fall months. However, community members should note that these inspections can be conducted at any time.

Housing residents who do not take care of their yard's appearance can be kicked out of housing and forced to move off base. The housing flight will issue up to three discrepancy notices before taking ac-

tion against residents who are noncompliant. Officials will then notify the 374th Mission Support Group commander of noncompliant residences, and those members may be forced to move off base.

Lawns must be mowed to two and three quarters inches or less to pass the inspections. Bushes must be trimmed to under five feet, and trees must have trimming up to 8 feet. All shrubs, bushes and trees must have at least an eight-inch clearance from housing units.

Sidewalks and roadways near each housing unit must be maintained by residents

also. All grass growing in paved areas must be removed, and grass around building foundations must be trimmed to yard standards.

Front and back yards must be "neatly maintained and present an attractive appearance at all times," according to 374th Airlift Wing Pamphlet 32-8.

All storage, bicycles, grills, outdoor furniture, and outdoor children's items can be placed only in the back yard.

For more information or questions about housing standards, call the housing flight at 225-8636.

South overrun off limits to runners, walkers

By 1st Lt. Ben Alumbaugh
374th Airlift Wing public affairs

May is National Physical Fitness Month and members of Team Yokota are encouraged to get out and participate in as much physical activity as possible, but one area off limits for running or walking is the south overrun.

The problem is the bike path on the south overrun lies in an area called a clear zone, which is a designated area at each

end of the runway that according to Unified Facilities Criteria 3-260-01 and Air Force Instruction 32-7063 possess a high potential for accidents.

For safety reasons, the bike path has to remain free of pedestrian traffic.

"People's lives would be at stake if an aircraft lands short," said Mr. David Prince, 374th Operations Group airfield manager. "Also, during departures jet blast from large aircraft can put people in harm's way."

"A major safety issue is the control tower does not have complete visibility of the overruns," said Capt. Ian Tate, Chief of Flight Safety for the 374th Airlift Wing.

"If someone is on the overrun and the tower can't see them then there is a possibility of an accident happening," the officer explained.

According to Mr. Prince, the bike path was already in place when the UFC went into effect in 2001.



March 29 – Malia Elizabeth Kealoha Peris, eight-pound, two-ounce daughter of Jessica and Claus Peris.

April 5 – Gabriel Marcel Durden, seven-pound, 11-ounce son of Rukiya and Brandon Durden.

April 6 – Jeremy Eduardo Smearman, nine-pound, seven-ounce son of Karina and Jeremy Smearman.

April 14 – Takeo David Young, eight-pound, 15-ounce son of Nia and Kenneth Young.

April 15 – Mallory Ryan Buckley, seven-pound, four-ounce daughter of Tracy and David Buckley.

April 15 – Madison Sakura Grace Mountin, six-pound, 10-ounce daughter of Sarah and Chad Mountin.

April 19 – Shelby Renee Wilkins, eight-pound, one-ounce daughter of Christine and Joseph Wilkins.

April 22 – David Alexander Gaul, nine-pound, two-ounce son of Amy and Eric Gaul.

April 30 – Lorelei Renee Carter, seven-pound daughter of Kathleen and Jason Carter.

May 6 – Marcus Antonio Pacheco, seven-pound, two-ounce son of Maureen and Scott Pacheco.

(Information provided by 374th Medical Operations Squadron)

AD

Servicemembers 'team for defense'

Air Force senior leaders reflect on Armed Forces Day meaning

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The following is an Armed Forces Day message from Acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael L. Dominguez and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

"In the first presidential proclamation for Armed Forces Day in 1950, President Truman said the day 'marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress ... towards the goal of readiness for any eventuality.'

"The theme of that first Armed Forces Day was 'Teamed for Defense,' expressing the new unification of all the military forces under a single department of the government – the Department of Defense.

"Through more than five decades our military members – Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines – have teamed with our civilian partners to build the greatest military in the world. This joint team is 'Teamed for Defense' like never before and America's Airmen are seamlessly integral to our joint force.

"More than 25,000 Airmen – active duty, Guard and Reserve – are deployed supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. On the ground, in the air and from space, Airmen bring overwhelming air and space power to bear for the joint team, for our nation, and for our allies in the war on terrorism.

"On the ground, our battle-field Airmen serve alongside infantry and special operations units, directly integrating air and space power. Airmen from 16 different combat support skills are driving trucks, providing convoy security, guarding prisoners and interrogating detainees. Airmen have refocused C-130 Hercules and C-17 Globemaster III airlift missions to reduce the number of convoys on Iraqi roads by nearly 350 trucks a day.

"In space, we're maintaining the continuous flow of communications, surveillance, precision navigation and targeting for the joint team. At home, we continue flying more than 6,200 sorties annually, ensuring the security of our sky.

"Airmen are also providing security and stability operations on the Korean peninsula and counterterrorism support

in the Horn of Africa. Following the tragic south Asian tsunami, Airmen flew more than 15 million pounds of food, supplies and equipment into the area.

"On this Armed Forces Day, America pays homage to our military men and women who have served and are serving our country so nobly on many fronts. Our Airmen and their families are extraordinarily committed to a cause much greater than themselves.

"If you wear the uniform of the United States military, be proud.- You have earned the respect of a grateful nation. Thank you for your sacrifice, devotion and courage.

"We are honored to serve with you. May God bless each of you, your families and our great nation."

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

IG: Supervisors should use PME 'toolbox'

By Master Sgt. Edwin Holland
374th Inspector General Office

As supervisors and leaders, we have a tremendous responsibility towards our subordinates to mentor and teach them so they may be future Air Force leaders.

We learn through various professional development forums that there are a variety of tools available to accomplish this very important task.

In the Inspector General complaints arena, we generally do not question the actions commanders and supervisors take with or against their subordinates. However, we've seen many different situations as the "eyes and ears of the commander" and feel it is important to note a trend observed lately.

We have noticed a trend where individuals, usually airmen through technical sergeants, who have been decent performers, have suddenly slipped, made a mistake and now find themselves in a continuing downward slope. They and their actions are under constant scrutiny, penalized for every slight movement and now are facing serious disciplinary actions, and possibly discharge from the Air Force.

We have all been taught in Professional Military Education and various other forums about mentorship, counseling, feedback, rehabilitation and other tools we have in our supervisory toolbox.

Through issues brought to our attention over the past year, it appears supervisors prefer to only use the disciplinary tools.

As Abraham Maslow eloquently said, "To the man who only has the hammer in the tool kit, every problem looks like a nail."

Oftentimes, we find through our analysis or investigations, a young troop who has committed a wrong and deserves to be disciplined, also has not received the proper mentoring and feedback throughout his or her time in the Air Force. This person has not been offered rehabilitation, except the rehabilitation opportunity provided by a Letter of Counseling or Reprimand.

Because of this, one wrong turns into another and more wrongdoings with elevated punishment along the way. The only possibility at this point is for a commander to pursue administrative discharge.

I'd like to offer a couple examples of what I call the "vortex," a situation where a person is swimming along in their career but get too close to a strong current and in an instant, they are caught up in the whirlpool of negative actions.

For example, an individual with a line number, class date for cross training, and a strong record, experiences a miscommunication with supervision which leads to commander involvement. Within a short period of time, the individual was removed from the current position, put on menial details, and lost the line number and class date. Before long, the individual was facing an administrative discharge.

A second example is a young Airman, with a good track record from a previous assignment, is moved to another position,

without any prior training for that particular job. Upon arrival to the unit, the immediate supervisor is unavailable and this young troop is passed to two or three supervisors in a four-month period. Within six days of receiving initial feedback, the troop is given a Letter of Counseling and non-recommended for promotion. The individual did not have any negative actions prior to receiving the non-recommendation. In the following months, the airman continued receiving counseling and reprimands for what appeared to be minor infractions and errors. The individual received a two on a Enlisted Performance Report, signaling a possible administrative discharge.

Both individuals made mistakes and should be held accountable. Unfortunately, in too many instances, we have seen young troops who were not provided proper mentoring in order to succeed nor ample time to turn themselves around.

Did the punishment really match the violation? We all make mistakes and should know those mistakes may have an impact on our careers. But what impact did these mistakes have on the particular careers of these individuals? The resources exist in our Air Force for rehabilitation and mentorship to work and there should be a balance between justice and mercy.

The next time you reach into that toolbox for the hammer, see if there might be some other tool that's better suited for the problem.



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Deadlines

The deadline for articles, briefs and classifieds is Wednesday the week before publication. For holidays, the deadline is one day earlier.

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DUI Prevention

May 11 – May 17	0
Total DUIs in May	1
Total in 2005	5

Punishment

.049 or less = car parked for 12 hours
.05-.079 = 6 months walking
.081-.149 = 1 year walking
0.15 or greater = 2 years walking

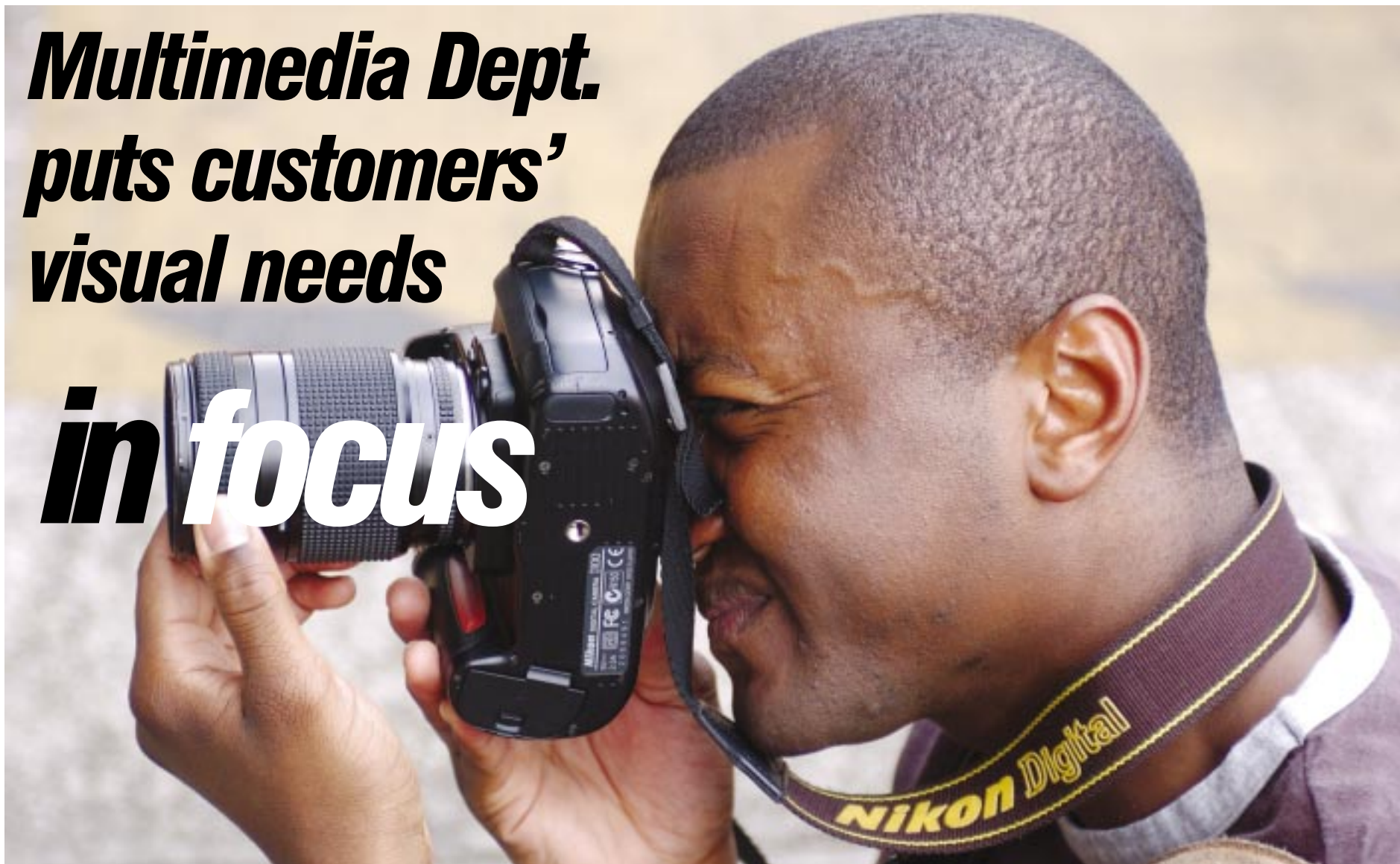
*Don't
drink and drive.
Call 225-RIDE!*

The Action Line is your direct line to me. Use it if you have questions or comments about Yokota, which couldn't be resolved by your chain of command first. When you send an e-mail, please include your name and phone number so you can be reached if more information is needed.

E-mail: Action.lines@yokota.af.mil

Col. Mark Schissler
374th Airlift Wing Commander

Multimedia Dept. puts customers' visual needs *in focus*



Above, Tech. Sgt. Corey Clements, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 374th Communications Squadron's photography lab, takes aim during a recent assignment here.

**Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Valda Wilson**
374th Communications Squadron

One of the best-kept secrets on Yokota is hidden on the second floor of Bldg. 653.

It is the base multimedia department.

The department boasts three diverse services that can help the community advertise, celebrate and memorialize the military experience and life.

"It is a unique experience to be able to interact with all career fields and represent them through our images," said Airman 1st Class Javier Cruz, a base photographer with the department.

From still photography to graphics to video, the department has something for every kind of need and customer, said department officials.

The still photography section can meet all official and passport photo needs. The section is also on-tap to support award ceremonies, commander's calls, retirement ceremonies, changes of command, medical documentation and newspaper photography.

Community members can have passport photos taken on a walk-in basis Mondays from 8 to 11 a.m. and Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m.

The graphics side of the department specializes in creating electronic and visual aids to mission-related events and needs.

Graphics Airmen can create posters, wall charts, flyers, certificates, temporary signs, logo designs and two- and three-dimensional art.

"We have several very talented individuals who love their work and are al-

ways anxious to serve your needs," said Tech. Sgt. Ronald Flack, noncommissioned officer in charge of the graphics section.

The section also loans presentation equipment such as projectors and screens.

Multimedia would not be complete without its video section. This section provides professional raw footage, video editing and tape duplication. Video Airmen can put final products on DVD, VHS, Hi-8, Mini-DV and other CD-ROM formats for customers.

The video section not only welcomes requests but also customers who would like to learn how to do what the section does. A self-help service is available along with loan items such as printers, video cameras and projectors.

The department is eager to meet the

needs of its customers but there are a few rules to keep in mind, said department officials. Requests cannot be provided as souvenirs, personal gifts, mementos or going-away gifts. Farewell parties and social events will not be covered unless it is of historical significance by the base commander or a major-command public affairs office. The department is also not allowed to create products used primarily for entertainment during farewell parties or social events.

"Remember, we are here to serve you," said Master Sgt. Tony Trigg, the base multimedia department manager. "You will always be greeted with a smile and a can-do attitude. Let us bring all your visual needs into reality."

For more information about the department, call 225-4237 or visit the second floor of Bldg. 653.

AD

Off base

Art exhibition—A free contemporary art exhibition by a member of the 374th Communications Squadron will be featured at the Ome City Culture Center. The exhibit will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. May 24 to 29. The center is a three-minute walk from the Higashi-Ome station's north exit.

For more information call 225-7338.

On base

Movies

Today — *Star Wars III: Return of the Sith*, PG-13, 2:30, 9:30 p.m.; *House of Wax*, R, 6 p.m.

Saturday — *Star Wars III: Return of the Sith*, PG-13, 10 a.m., 2:30 and 9:30 p.m. (final evening showing is adults-only); *Hostage*, R, 6 p.m.

Sunday — *Star Wars III: Return of the Sith*, PG-13, 10 a.m., 2:30 and 9:30 p.m.; *House of Wax*, R, 6 p.m.

Monday — *Star Wars III: Return of the Sith*, PG-13, 6 p.m.; *Hostage*, R, 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday — *Star Wars III: Return of the Sith*, PG-13, 6 p.m.; *House of Wax*, R, 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday — *Robots*, PG, 7 p.m.; *Hostage*, R, 9:30 p.m.

Thursday — *Robots*, PG, 7 p.m.; *House of Wax*, R, 9:30 p.m.

All movies and showtimes are subject to change without notice. For more information, call 225-8708.

Farewell banquet

The 374th Airlift Wing is hosting a farewell banquet for wing commander Col. and Mrs. Mark Schissler May 31 at the Enlisted Club beginning at 6 p.m. Community members can reserve a seat through their first sergeant.

Heritage events

The Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month Committee* is hosting several events this month. A cultural show is scheduled for Saturday at the Taiyo Recreation Center from noon to 3 p.m. A volleyball tournament will be held Sat-

urday also from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Yokota Middle and High Schools. A luncheon will be hosted May 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Enlisted Club. Call 225-4126.

Traffic changes

The Supply Gate's outbound lane of traffic will be closed Monday through June 5. All outbound traffic should use the Fussa or Terminal Gate during the closure.

MTI briefing

Air Education and Training Command will have a Technical Instructors briefing June 3 at the Family Support Center auditorium. Airmen and noncommissioned officers interested in becoming a TI are encouraged to attend. Call 225-7829.

Single Airmen's party

The Yokota commissary is hosting a single Airmen's party May 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. The event includes free food and door prizes.

Term V classes

The University of Maryland University College will hold sign-ups for Term V classes through May 27. Call 225-8922 or visit <http://www.asia.umuc.edu>.

Summer hire program

The base's summer hire program is accepting applications for full- and part-time laborer and clerical positions through May 27. For more information, visit the Civilian Personnel Office or Yokota Middle or High School.

Bazaar

The U.S. Naval Hospital Recreation Committee is holding a spring mini-bazaar Saturday and Sunday at the Yokosuka Middle School gym. Call 243-5564.

Horizons magazine

The 374th Services Division magazine "Horizons" is only delivered to club member post boxes. Copies are available at services activities and at Army and Air Force Exchange Service locations.

Scrapbooking

The Yokota Arts and Crafts Center offers scrapbooking classes for adults and children. A scrapbooking night is held the last Friday of each month at the center from 6 to 9:30 p.m. The center's store also offers scrapbooking supplies and materials. Call 225-9044.

Flea market

The Yokota Enlisted Spouses Club* is hosting a flea market at the Kanto Lodge parking lot Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Self-help flowers

The Samurai Self-Help Store is sponsoring its annual flower program through Saturday. Community members can sign-up for free flowers today from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 225-7086.

Cleanups

The Fussa Junior Chamber will hold a cleanup of Route 16 from Haijima Station to East Fussa Station Sunday from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

Fussa City will host the Tama River cleanup May 29 from 9:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. Earth Day events will follow at Tama Central Park. A bus will leave the Yokota High School parking lot at 9 a.m.

Craft-n-Lunch

The Yokota Arts and Crafts Center is offering to teach a craft and provide lunch to groups of 10 or more in this new program. Groups interested in organizing a lunch should contact 225-9044.

Sensory integration

The Yokota East Elementary School is hosting a seminar about children's sensory integration Monday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the school's media center. Call 225-8982.

Family Advocacy

Family Advocacy is moving to the Bldg. 1585 with the dental squadron May 20. Community members should contact Life Skills

Samurai Warrior



of the Week



Tech. Sgt. Lester Farley

Tech. Sgt. Lester Farley, 374th Operations Group, is this week's Samurai Warrior of the Week for exhibiting the qualities of courage and sincerity and respect for one's word of honor.

Sergeant Farley is the noncommissioned officer in charge for 374th Operations Group Standardization and Evaluation. He flew 22 combat sorties as a C-130 Loadmaster and delivered 138 tons and 930 passengers during a recent deployment to Southwest Asia.

Upon his return, his essential load planner skills were put to work as he processed 149 tons of tsunami relief aid and 196 passengers for Operation Unified Assistance.

that day for assistance. The organization will reopen at its new location May 23 at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call 225-3648.

Volunteers needed

Yokota East Elementary School is seeking volunteers to help prepare the school's interior and exterior to be painted. Volunteers are needed June 1 to 17. Call 225-5504.

Chapel events

The Lampas Choir of South Korea is performing at the Taiyo Recreation Center June 5. They will also be making special appearances at the Traditional Chapel June 5 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The base chapel is hosting Vacation Bible School June 20 to 24 at the Traditional Chapel. This year's theme is "Serengeti Trek: Where Kids Are Wild About God." Call 225-3253.

The Protestant Singles of the Chapel host a dinner and Bible study every Tuesday beginning at 5:30 p.m. behind the Traditional Chapel. The group also hosts a fellowship night every Friday beginning at 7 p.m. behind the Tra-

ditional Chapel. Call 225-7009.

Chapel Schedule

Traditional (West) Chapel

Catholic: Reconciliation, Sundays at 8:45 a.m., 4:45 p.m. and by appointment. Mass, Sundays at 9:15 a.m., 5 p.m.; Mondays through Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.

Protestant: Traditional service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Liturgical service Sundays at 6:30 p.m.; Korean service, Sundays at 2 p.m.

Other faiths: Baha'i, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Contemporary (East) Chapel

Protestant: Gospel service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Contemporary service, Sundays at 5 p.m.

Other faiths: Seventh Day Adventist, second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 9 a.m.; Islam, Fridays at noon.

Call 225-7009.

PO disclaimer

An asterisk (*) denotes a private organization. All POs and PO activities are not endorsed by or affiliated with the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

AD

“Quotes” & Things

*“OK, but no potatoes.
I’m on a diet.”*

Yogi Berra,
when asked if he
wanted french fries

Biathlon: The U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Detachment at Yokosuka is hosting the second annual Ronin Biathlon May 21 beginning at 7 a.m. The biathlon features a 6.8-kilometer run, 1.5-kilometer swim and ends with a 1.5-kilometer run. Call 241-4468 or 243-7190.

Ekiden: The 21st Annual Yokota Striders’ Ekiden Relay Race is scheduled for June 18 and 19 throughout the main base area near the Yokota High School. More than 250 volunteers are needed to support the event. Call 227-7934.

Tournament: Route 56, an on-base private organization, is hosting a five-man softball tournament Saturday and Sunday at Wilkins Field beginning at 8 a.m. The cost is \$50 per team. Call 225-4034 or 225-8943.

Run: The Yokota Youth Programs is hosting the America’s Kids Run Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the playground behind Snyder Field. See the base’s West Youth Center or visit <http://www.americaskidsrun.org>.

Baseball: The Yokota Thuner Baseball Club is recruiting players for the remainder of the 2005 season. Call 090-3500-0343.

Outdoor Rec: The base outdoor recreation center is hosting a sea kayaking and camping trip to Izu Peninsula May 28 to 30. The cost includes all camping, transportation and kayaking equipment fees. Call 225-4552.



photo by Senior Airman Edward Drew

Toughin’ it

Mountain bikers conquer a steep hill in the Tour De Tama XVI Saturday at Tama Hills. Dozens of participants from Yokota took to the wooded course with hopes of placing in one of the four categories this year. Sarah Arant took first in the women’s open with 43:27, and Christopher Looney claimed first with 40:14 in the rookie riders category. In the men’s over 35 category, Spence Palmer rode 38:31 to earn second place, and Dan Stevens took fourth with 40:34. Mark Schmidt claimed fourth in the men’s open with 36:50. Nearly two dozen Yokota community members rode in the Tour De Tama XVI. The next Tour De Tama is planned for this fall.

Coach of the Year: Joy in helping youth sports

(Editor’s note: The following sports commentary is written by the Yokota Coach of the Year for 2004.)

By Master Sgt. Frank Tuck
605th Air Support Squadron

I have had the pleasure of coaching youth sports for more than 20 years mostly in the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

I have coached football, basketball, soccer, track, and baseball. My greatest joy in coaching is seeing our children compete and knowing I have impacted their lives in a positive way.

It is my responsibility as a coach to teach my players the skills and the strategy of the game while instilling a respect for the tradition of the game. It is also important that respect is

shown for all who are involved in the game including teammates, opponents, officials and fans.

Learning to honor the game contributes to the growing sense of responsibility and maturing moral reasoning that helps athletes become contributing citizens of the larger community. There is no greater joy than knowing I have impacted a child in a positive way.

Coaching requires giving of your time freely back to the children in order that they might learn to work together as a team in order to achieve a common goal.

It also requires a commitment to making the game fun and developing players’ physical, mental and social skills, which will play a part in their growth as young adults.

A good coach teaches his players basic fundamentals, explains concepts, and enables players to think logically when making a play. Winning is great, but encouraging the team to play the game fairly and teach your players good sportsmanship is an even greater reward.

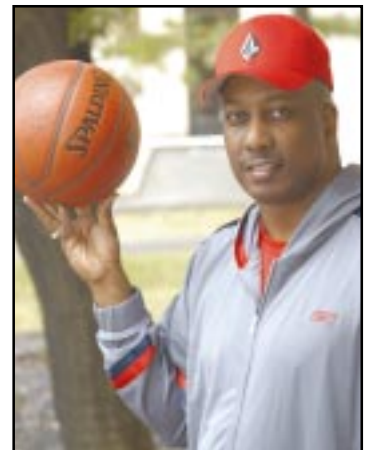
A coach is a very powerful role model who realizes that what they teach players carries far beyond the athletic field. Their role is to ensure every child has an enjoyable and successful experience.

Lastly, participating in athletics should be a wonderful experience for all children that we have the privilege to coach, no matter their levels of talent or interest.

Playing sports should be a positive experience, and it should be one that children look

forward to each and every season.

If I manage to accomplish this each and every time, I am privileged to take the field knowing that I have achieved my role as a coach.



courtesy photo

Master Sgt. Frank Tuck, 605th Air Support Squadron.

AD